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Sep 5th 2018

Via ECFS
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1

Dear FCC,

Please do not reduce competition in the telecom market. You are placing the middle and working classes and small entrepreneurs trying to survive and get ahead in serious jeopardy by favoring large telecom companies. The technology business is already consolidating into the five majors and curiously they are not complaining this time when the FCC eviscerated the Net Neutrality act. Why? maybe because they came into a side agreement with ATT, Verizon and the two, three other internet infrastructure owners.

As a result we have sub-standard internet access, throttling of speeds, caps on usage, and loss of innovation within the telecom companies. That has cascaded into "me-tooisms" in the rest of the technology companies. Small entrepreneurs have come to recognize innovative "minnows" cannot last for long with hungry sharks and whales in the water.

If you hand out more favors to these companies with even this trivial part of their domain, i.e with this U.S. telecom's latest assault, we will have very poor infrastructure with the internet marketplace putting the United States, the inventor of the Internet against upstarts like China who think long term. Even India has more competition, though there are efforts to consolidate there as well! Is this what we want in the United States?

I moved from ATT Wireless to an MVNO, PuretalkUSA and a second service via another Sprint MVNO. If there had been a quality competitor I would have moved to their service. I gave Comcast Cable, after ATT's garbage U-Verse TV service and inflated pricing model to OTA. As a result I watch less TV, get more sleep.

We need more competition, not less. I can see us heading back to Ma Bell. Maybe I should invest in a bakelite rotary dial phone company? Please apply the brakes on this consolidation for more competition, please.

Valangiman Seshagiri